

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:EOJONES:RGH

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S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

NEA/ARN -MR. REUTHER

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R 291726Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION SINAI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 312556

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - DECEMBER 28

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
DECEMBER 28, 1976:

Q. REFERRING TO CLARK CLIFFORD'S FIRST PUBLIC DISCUSSION
IN TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF WHAT THE INFORMATION COPY HERE
SAYS IS THE "STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND
THE WHITE HOUSE OVER RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL," AND ON
PAGE 10 OF THIS -- OF THE TEXT OF THE ADDRESS THAT WAS
GIVEN TO THE MEDIA, IT SAYS THAT THE EVIDENCE INCLUDES
DOCUMENTS THAT ARE NOT FOUND IN THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED
VOLUME OF FOREIGN RELATIONS WHICH THE STATE DEPARTMENT PUT
OUT FOR USE ON NOVEMBER 20TH LAST.
COULD THE DEPARTMENT LOOK INTO THIS AND SEE WHETHER OR

NOT THE DOCUMENTS WOULD BE CONSTRUED AS EVIDENCE OF THE--
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WHAT CLIFFORD SAYS WAS "SABOTAGE OF PRESIDENTIAL POLICY?"

IS THERE PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN SOME FORM, AS AN
ADDENDA TO THE RECORD IN THE FOREIGN RELATIONS VOLUME--
THAT'S A --

A. ONCE WE CAN SEE THE TEXT, AND SEE EXACTLY WHAT
MR. CLIFFORD IS GOING TO BE SAYING, I THINK WE COULD
PROBABLY TRY TO CHECK THAT FOR YOU, YES.

Q. THE CHARGE IS MADE BY MR. CLIFFORD THAT THE CHIEF OF
THE ELEMENTS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT WHO, HE SAID, SOUGHT
TO DESTROY THE PRESIDENTIAL POLICY--A PARTITION OF
PALESTINE--WAS LOY HENDERSON.

IF IT RUNS TRUE, THIS, ABOUT HENDERSON'S ACTIVITIES--AND
YET THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DID
MR. HENDERSON THE HONOR OF NAMING A HALL IN THE STATE

DEPARTMENT AFTER HIM, AS A MODEL OF FOREIGN SERVICE DUTY TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

IS IT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW AND IS IT THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S VIEW THAT ACTION OF THIS KIND BY A CHIEF OF A BUREAU--THAT APPARENTLY--FROM CLIFFORD'S REMARKS AND FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S OWN REPORT--DOCUMENTATION--INDICATES THAT HENDERSON SOUGHT IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY, AS FAR AS WE COULD SEE, TO BLOCK -- IN CLIFFORD'S OWN WORDS--BLOCK THE POLICY OF THE PRESIDENT ON PARTITION.

WILL THE SECRETARY HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS ON THIS?

A. YOU ARE TRYING TO MAKE A CONNECTION BETWEEN AN ALLEGATION CONTAINED IN WHAT MR. CLIFFORD IS GOING TO BE SAYING PUBLICLY IN MORE THAN AN HOUR FROM NOW, AND THE RECOGNITION OF MR. HENDERSON'S SERVICES TO THE COUNTRY AND THE DEPARTMENT OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME--A UNCLASSIFIED

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DEMONSTRABLE RECORD WHICH WAS RECOGNIZED IN THE NAMING OF THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

I DO NOT THINK YOU CAN MAKE THAT CONNECTION--AT LEAST HERE AND NOW--AND I REALLY CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.

Q. WELL THE POINT IS THAT THE RECORD MAY NOT HAVE BEEN--MAY HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED.

THIS HAPPENED TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO.

A. AS I SAY, WE WILL HAVE TO SEE THAT MR. CLIFFORD SAYS, AND THEN WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHETHER IT IS CONTAINED IN THIS VOLUME THAT YOU THINK IT HAS BEEN OMITTED FROM. ROBINSON

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